REBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES STAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR ATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

DATE:

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE **PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Patent Application of

Walter W. Eckman

Conf. No.:

4929

Examiner: David C. Comstock

Appln. No.:

10/731,288

Group Art Unit: 3732

Filed:

December 9, 2003

Allowed: May 17, 2003

For:

DISKECTOMY INSTRUMENT AND

METHOD

: Attorney Docket : No. 10800-3U3

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Although it is Applicant's opinion that the claims filed by way of amendment are substantially embraced in the statement of invention or in the claims originally filed, Applicant herewith files a Supplemental Declaration for precautionary purposes under 37 CFR 1.67.

Respectfully submitted.

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